

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 December 2002 (19.12.2002)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/101795 A3

(51) International Patent Classification: H01L 21/00

CENTRUM (IMEC)* [BE/BE]; Kapeldreef 75, B-B-3001
Leuven (BE).

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/18761

(22) International Filing Date: 12 June 2002 (12.06.2002)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/297,736 12 June 2001 (12.06.2001) US
60/304,920 11 July 2001 (11.07.2001) US
60/316,725 30 August 2001 (30.08.2001) US

(72) Inventors: LAUERHAAS, Jeffrey, M.; Slachthuislaan 1
bus 212, B-3000 Leuven (BE). NICOLASI JR., Thomas,
J.; 22976 Luciana, Mission Viejo, CA 92691 (US).
MERTENS, Paul; Dijleweg 30 A, B-B-2820 Bonheiden
(BE). FYEN, William; Geldenaalsebaan 159, B-B-3001
Heverlee (BE).

(74) Agent: ARAI, Katsuhiko; KNOBBE, MARTENS, OL-
SON & BEAR, LLP, 620 Newport Center Drive, 16th
Floor, Newport Beach, CA 92660 (US).

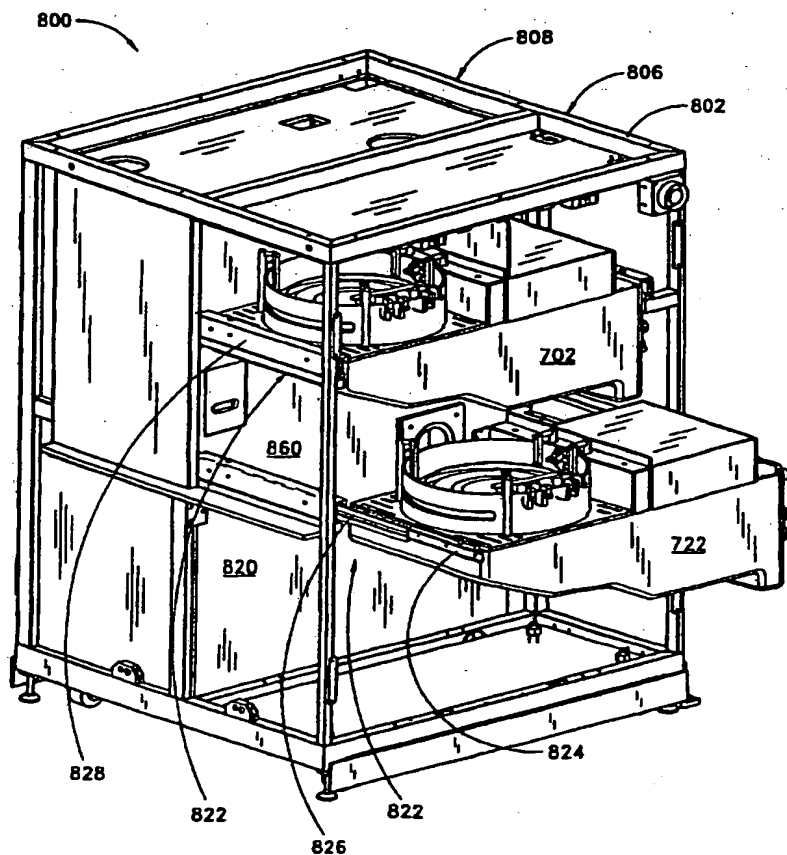
(81) Designated States (national): CA, IL, JP, KR, NO, SG.

(71) Applicants: VERTEQ, INC [US/US]; 1241 E. Dyer
Road, Suite 100, Santa Ana, CA 92705-6533 (US).
INTERUNIVERSITAIR MICROELEKTRONICA

(84) Designated States (regional): European patent (AT, BE,
CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC,
NL, PT, SE, TR).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: MEGASONIC CLEANER AND DRYER SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: An apparatus for drying a generally flat substrate (114) that has been cleaned has a rotatable support (110) for supporting the substrate (114), a substrate drying assembly (120), and a controller (147). The substrate drying assembly (120) includes a substrate drying assembly support arm (130), an outlet for applying liquid to an upper surface of the substrate (114), and an outlet for applying a drying vapor to the upper surface of the substrate (114). The substrate drying assembly (120) is configured to position the liquid applying outlet and to position the vapor applying outlet above a portion of the substrate (114). The controller (147) causes the substrate drying assembly (120) to be retracted over the upper surface of the substrate (114) at a faster rate near a center of the substrate (114) than near a periphery of the substrate (114).

WO 02/101795 A3

BEST AVAILABLE COPY



Published:

— with international search report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

6 March 2003

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

PCT/US 02/18761

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H01L21/00

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHEDMinimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 H01L

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	DE 198 33 197 A (TOKYO ELECTRON LTD) 18 February 1999 (1999-02-18)	1, 29, 49
Y	figure 1 page 1, line 5 - line 9 page 1, line 32 - line 43 page 2, line 40 - page 7, line 33	2-28, 30-48
Y	EP 0 905 747 A (IMEC INTER UNI MICRO ELECTR) 31 March 1999 (1999-03-31) cited in the application figure 1 paragraph '0034!	2-28, 30-48

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.*** Special categories of cited documents :**

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

T later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

X document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

Y document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

& document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

25 November 2002

Date of mailing of the international search report

09/12/2002

Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5618 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Bader, K

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/US 02/18761

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
DE 19833197	A	18-02-1999	JP 11054471 A	26-02-1999
			DE 19833197 A1	18-02-1999
			US 6431184 B1	13-08-2002
EP 0905747	A	31-03-1999	WO 9916109 A1	01-04-1999
			EP 0905747 A1	31-03-1999
			EP 0970511 A1	12-01-2000
			JP 11233481 A	27-08-1999
			JP 2001506061 T	08-05-2001
			US 2002125212 A1	12-09-2002
			US 2002130106 A1	19-09-2002
			US 2001042559 A1	22-11-2001
			US 6398975 B1	04-06-2002
			US 2002148483 A1	17-10-2002
			EP 0905746 A1	31-03-1999
			EP 0905748 A1	31-03-1999
			US 6261377 B1	17-07-2001
			US 6334902 B1	01-01-2002
			US 2001022186 A1	20-09-2001